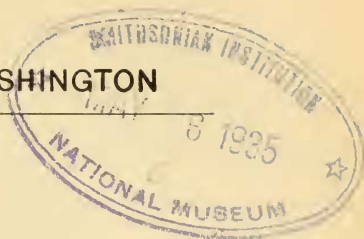


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



NEW BIRDS FROM KENYA COLONY.

BY JAMES L. PETERS AND ARTHUR LOVERIDGE.

The two new races described below were collected by the junior author on his most recent visit to Uganda and Kenya Colony on behalf of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy with the support of a fellowship granted by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation of New York.

*Tyto capensis libratus*, subsp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult ♀, no. 168653, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, from Kaimosi, Kakamega district, Nyansa Province, Kenya Colony. Collected 21 February, 1934, by Arthur Loveridge.

*Characters*.—Similar to *Tyto capensis capensis* (A. Smith)<sup>1</sup> but the upper parts much blacker brown and lacking the whitish dorsal spots. Below paler, the buff restricted to a band across the breast; flanks, abdomen and tibiae white; dark spots smaller and more reduced in number. Similar also to *Tyto capensis damarensis* Roberts<sup>2</sup> in having paler underparts and smaller spots below, but darker above and indications of white spots practically absent.

*Measurements*.—Wing, 295 mm.; tail, 120 mm.; tarsus, 78 mm.; culmen, 20 mm.

*Remarks*.—So far as we can discover this is an extremely rare bird in East Africa. Apparently this specimen constitutes the second record for Kenya Colony, the first being a male recorded from Fort Hall by van Someren.<sup>3</sup> While referring this bird to the South African race he notes that it has the characters displayed by our Kaimosi bird and surmises that it may prove to be a new form.

*Zosterops silvanus*, sp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult ♂, no. 168994, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, from Mt. Mbololo, 4,800 feet, Taita, Kenya Colony. Collected 21 April, 1934, by Arthur Loveridge.

<sup>1</sup> *Striz capensis* A. Smith, S. Afr. Quart. Journ. (2), 1834, p. 317. South Africa.

<sup>2</sup> Ann. Transv. Mus., 8, 1922, p. 212. Damaraland.

<sup>3</sup> Nov. Zool., 29, 1922, p. 46.

*Characters.*—Most nearly related to *Zosterops winifredae* Selater and Moreau,<sup>4</sup> but instantly distinguished by its very large and conspicuous white eye ring; more olive less yellowish green upper parts; forehead not golden yellow; throat greenish yellow and not pale yellow; median portion of posterior underparts clear gray like the flanks (not white) and bill much longer and stouter.

*Measurements.*—

	<i>W.</i>	<i>T.</i>	<i>Bill</i>
♂ type .....	58	47.5	11
♂ .....	56	47	11.5
♀ .....	54	....	11.5
♀ .....	54	46.5	11.3

There are a number of species of *Zosterops* in Africa with yellow throats and undertail coverts separated by gray, brown or whitish underparts, and until the relationships of these groups are worked out, treatment as species is advisable.

We are indebted to Dr. W. L. Selater for comparing one of our specimens with the series of *Zosterops winifredae* in the British Museum.

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<sup>4</sup> Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 55, 1934, p. 14. Chome, in forest on South Pare Mountains, 6200 feet, Usambara district, Tanganyika Territory.